



Atlas Asbestos Mine Superfund Site

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • REGION 9 • FEBRUARY 2005

U.S. EPA WILL COLLECT AIR SAMPLES BEFORE AND DURING RACING EVENT

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) is continuing its collection of air samples from the Clear Creek Management Study Area (CCMA) in order to assess human exposure to airborne asbestos at the CCMA. This fact sheet discusses the sampling events to be conducted prior to and during the 2005 Quicksilver Enduro off-road vehicle race on February 20th, 2005.

Why are we doing this air sampling?

The Atlas Asbestos Mine Superfund Site (Site) has been cleaned up to ensure that asbestos associated with mining activities is not released to surrounding areas, including the CCMA. However, the Record of Decision for the Site requires that U.S. EPA also assess the risk of naturally occurring asbestos to recreational users of the CCMA. Therefore, the U.S. EPA has been measuring the amount of asbestos fibers in the personal air space of persons engaged in typical recreational activities at the CCMA.

The goal of February's air sampling events is to gather data during wet, winter conditions. Previous sampling events, in September and November 2004, occurred during drier conditions. The September data has been validated, and is available to the public upon request. The November 2004 data will be available sometime in March 2005.

Both the dry and wet sampling data will be used to help develop a more comprehensive asbestos exposure assessment for users of the CCMA. When the exposure assessment report is complete, the U.S. EPA will summarize it in a fact sheet for the public, place a copy of the report in the site's information repositories and send the report to U.S. Bureau of Land Management (U.S. BLM) who manages the land. The report will assist the U.S. BLM to develop management strategies for the CCMA that will minimize human health risk to users and maintenance workers.

What will happen at the pre-race and actual race sampling events?

A week or so before the race, as well as during the race, the U.S. EPA staff and their contractors will be wearing white protective clothing and respirators. Sampling devices will be hooked to them to collect air samples in the breathing space of the persons wearing them. Some of these persons will be engaged in off-road motorcycle activities. The U.S. EPA will also collect air samples from stationery samplers located along the race route. The data will be used to compare airborne asbestos concentrations on the race day with concentrations on other days, when there are fewer CCMA users.



Worker wearing personal protective equipment

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Information for the CCMA Visitors

A pamphlet has been developed to give the casual visitor to the CCMA sufficient and clear warning of the cancer risks associated with inhalation of asbestos fibers. To obtain a copy of this pamphlet, please call (831) 630-5000.

For further specific information regarding the CCMA, contact Robert Beehler, Field Area Manager with the U.S. BLM, at (831) 630-5010. The U.S. BLM has a web page devoted to information about CCMA at <http://www.ca.blm.gov/>. To access CCMA in this web page go to the search engine and type in CCMA.

For More Information

If you would like to be included on the U.S. EPA mailing list to receive future information about the Atlas Asbestos Mine Superfund Site, please call Jacqueline Lane, Community Involvement Specialist at toll-free 800 231-3075 or direct dial at (415) 972-3236. More information about the Site is available on the Internet at: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r9/sfund/overview.nsf>

The Site's information repositories are located at:

- Coalinga District Library at (559) 935-1676
- Huron City Hall at (559) 945-2241
- Kings County Library at (559) 582-0261
- Superfund Record Center at (415) 536-2000



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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-3)
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